



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Overview Briefing for:

JECVO

7 February 2018

Presented by BG (Ret) Norman Arflack
Commissioner KDVA

Agenda



- Cemeteries/Burial Honors
- Veterans Benefits Branch
- Nursing Facilities
- Homeless Program
- Women Veterans Program
- KYVETS
- Upcoming Events



Kentucky Veterans Cemeteries

As of December 31, 2017

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central



Opened June 1, 2007

Interments:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Veterans | 4,422 |
| Dependents | <u>1,056</u> |
| Total | 5,478 |

| | |
|----------|-------|
| Cremated | 1,658 |
|----------|-------|

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North



Opened August 22, 2008

Interments:

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Veterans | 1,216 |
| Dependents | <u>265</u> |
| Total | 1,481 |

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|----------|-----|
| Cremated | 560 |
|----------|-----|

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West



Opened March 1, 2004

Interments:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Veterans | 2,825 |
| Dependents | <u>1,032</u> |
| Total | 3,857 |

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|----------|-------|
| Cremated | 1,095 |
|----------|-------|

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East



Opened October 1, 2010

Interments:

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Veterans | 706 |
| Dependents | <u>143</u> |
| Total | 849 |

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Cremated | 250 |
|----------|-----|

Total : 11,665

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East

Completed construction in Leslie County, Kentucky.



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East

- Staff is now occupying the Administration Building
- Dedication ceremony scheduled
 - **April 26, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.**
- Cemetery Manager and Administrative Specialist have been hired
- Two Caretaker positions currently in process of being filled.

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KDVA Field Operations

Headquarters for the KDVA Field Benefits Office is located with the US Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Louisville.

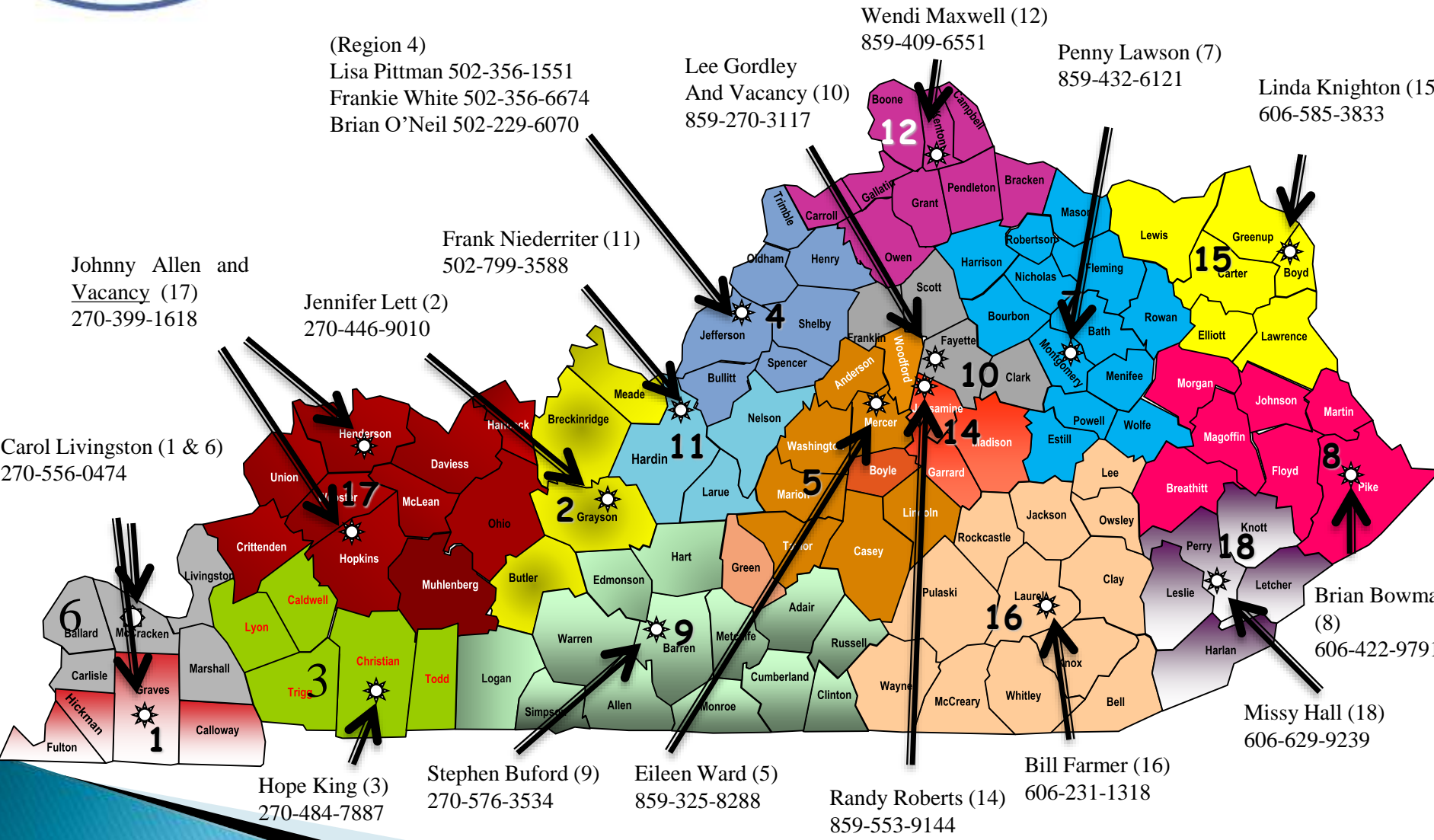
- Leadership and Staff consist of the following:
 - Ray Harris, Benefits Branch Manager
 - 5 Regional Administrators
 - Monica Acob, Ed Day, Matt LaPierre, Allen James & 1 Vacancy
 - 20 Field Benefits Representatives
 - 17 regions across Kentucky
 - Donna Scrivener Appeals Management
 - 2 Administrative Specialists





KDVA Field Operations

20 Field Representatives in 17 Regions



KDVA Field Operations



2017 Statistics and Highlights:

- Census Numbers for Kentucky Veterans: 308,000 (Note: does not include family members eligible for services).
- 2017 KDVA filed claims: 7800
 - NOTE: KDVA was #2 nationally in digitally processed claim activity.
- 2017 KDVA Tuition Waiver applications:
495 Processed/433 Approved
- 2017 KDVA Appeals identified, processed and vetted to Federal VA appeals board: 600+

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Kentucky State Veterans Homes



Thomson-Hood Veterans Center, Wilmore, KY
209 Beds



Western Kentucky Veterans Center,
Hanson, KY
156 Beds




Radcliff Veterans Center, Radcliff KY
120 Beds




Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center,
Hazard KY
120 Beds


Current

- ▶ Thomson Hood Veterans Center has re-opened their secure unit after the floor replacement with all private rooms
 - ▶ Personal Services Contracts – have hired at least 8 licensed nurses
 - ▶ Staffing Vacancies continue to contribute to delayed admissions
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Bowling Green Application

- ▶ All state matching fund documents have been submitted
 - ▶ August 1, 2018 the application will be considered for the priority one list
 - ▶ A specific site is yet to be confirmed. Local community leaders continue to work to secure a specific site
 - State clearing house (30 day process) will begin once a site is selected. This must occur before August 1, 2018
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Radcliff Veterans Center Update

- 30 veterans currently in residence
 - Hiring staff to open the 2nd neighborhood (30 suites)
 - Receiving Medicare and Medicaid payments
 - VA provider agreement signed and submitted. Still not completely processed by the VA. The facility is not receiving VA reimbursement but will receive retroactive payments back to the date of the recognition survey
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KDVA Homeless Veterans Program

Recent Accomplishments and Updates

- ▶ Distributed over 100 bags for homeless veterans to various homeless shelters, police departments, and veteran service organizations.
 - Bags consisted of hygiene products, snacks, blankets, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, etc.
 - ▶ Distributed 35 coats during holiday season.
 - ▶ Increased homeless assistance service requirement to 180 days of active duty service to match state definition for veteran status.
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KY Women Veterans Program

2018 Goals

- Four Lunch and Learns planned:
 - Northern KY – Mid-March or April
 - Morehead – Mid-June or July
 - Elizabethtown – Mid-September or October
 - Hopkinsville – December
 - 2018 Women Veterans Monthly E-newsletter
 - Women Veterans License Plate
 - Continue to partner with external organizations to provide outreach
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Clara Avenue Project



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Kentucky Veterans Employment, Training, and Support Program

KY Vets Employer services:

- ▶ education on why hiring veterans is good business
- ▶ matching veterans skills to their employment needs
- ▶ free advertisement of positions
- ▶ top talent referrals

Three Key Areas:

- Education
- Training
- Retention



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Upcoming Events & News

- General Assembly 2018 Regular Session – through April – KDVA Budget is top priority
- 26 April 2018 – Dedication of Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Southeast



Questions?